

December 2022 QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT

A. Grant/IAG No.: **00D97919**

Principal Investigator: **Lifecycle Building Center, Inc. (LBC)**

1. What work was accomplished for this reporting quarter?

In October 2022, LBC brought on board a new Project Manager, Garry Harris with the Center for Sustainable Communities (<https://csc-atl.org/>). Garry has decades of experience in energy, workforce training, sustainable development, equity and environmental justice, and community engagement. With Garry's leadership and support from our Georgia Tech student intern Jackie Zong, and several other key coalition partners, LBC formally established a name for our broader network of partners, ReBuildATL, which includes 24+ community-based organizations and 60+ individual volunteers. The ReBuildATL network is committed to delivering the Breaking Barriers Workforce Training program, the Community Reuse Toolkit, and other community-focused initiatives in Atlanta's westside communities designed to enhance and empower these communities through increased resilience and sustainability.

Using an Asset-Based Community Development approach, strong progress has been made with the Breaking Barriers through Deconstruction Workforce Training Program. Three working groups were launched to advance the aspects of the training program for which they are responsible: a Trainee Recruitment & Support / Marketing group, an Employer Engagement / Curriculum Development group, and a Fundraising / Capacity Building group. Each group held several meetings throughout the quarter. These groups represent the six Critical Functional Areas deemed necessary to ensure that all project outcomes are achieved. Specific milestones and tasks have been identified for each group, and a technology-based milestone and task-tracking system was implemented to ensure adherence to the overall project schedule, budget and desired outcomes.

The Trainee Recruitment & Support / Marketing group created three informational flyers for the program. The first flyer represents the broader ReBuildATL network and is intended for both the general public and potential funders. The second flyer is intended to help employer partners understand how they can support the workforce program. The last one is for recruitment to attract potential trainees. Branding ideas for the network were discussed and a logo was developed. The team will be working collectively to create a comprehensive recruitment process that will properly evaluate, and assess candidates for the initial training cohort, and the group plans to formally launch the recruitment process by the end of January.

During Q4 2022 the Employer Engagement / Curriculum Development group created an initial framework for the training curriculum with input from our coalition partners. The curriculum includes a ten-day deconstruction training course with both classroom and field training that will be executed in large part by Re:Purpose Savannah (repurposesavannah.org). The curriculum also

includes training modules such as EPA Lead RRP, OSHA 10, G-PRO, residential energy efficiency 101, financial education, and soft skills. A large meeting with 12 different employer partners representing professions ranging from home remodeling, construction, facility management and more was held in early December. The group provided valuable feedback on the curriculum, and many employer partners expressed interest in hosting portions of the training at their respective work sites and to also hire trainees after the program. The employer partners have demonstrated much greater interest and commitment to the program than was initially expected by offering internships and other similar types of employment assistance to the training cohort graduates.

With support from the Fundraising / Capacity Building working group, LBC was able to secure additional funding for the program in Q4 2022 and expand the funding prospect pipeline for the Breaking Barriers program. Recent grant awards for the program include \$10,000 from Stanley Black & Decker, \$6,000 from the Richard C. Munroe Foundation, and \$3,000 from the Bright Wings Foundation. The Fundraising / Capacity Building group also collaborated on a \$30,000 funding request to the Department of Energy to support the coalition's work; notification regarding this grant award is expected by the end of January. The group also worked to identify potential technical and human resources in order to further enhance the capacity of the Breaking Barriers coalition, coalition member organizations and the overall ReBuildATL network. The ReBuildATL network developed a 3-phase approach to support greater economic development and reduce the energy burden of Westside residents. In Phase 1, the network will offer the Breaking Barriers Workforce Training program and initial weatherization improvements for local residents, with these improvement potentially done by the trainees in order to provide them with cross-training in both deconstruction and residential home repairs. In Phase 2, the ReBuildATL network will provide more extensive home repairs and improvements using reclaimed materials from LBC, including energy efficiency retrofits. In Phase 3, the network will implement community-based solar initiatives to reduce energy costs for Westside homeowners and reduce reliance on more costly, pollutive, and non-sustainable sources of energy. Organizations within the network, such as Grove Park Foundation, West Atlanta Watershed Alliances, etc., have past experience performing related work, and the network as a collective is looking forward to expanding its impact to other Westside Atlanta communities and neighborhoods.

LBC, in partnership with Build Reuse and an outside consultant (30-year deconstruction veteran and co-founder of the Building Materials Reuse Association, Brad Guy) worked to finalize the analysis of data collected from the questionnaire and interviews performed for the Community Reuse Toolkit. Three goals have been established for the Toolkit: 1) assess feasibility for reuse / deconstruction at the community level; 2) understand best practices and benchmarking for existing reuse operations across the U.S.; 3) set guidance for start-up and early development of new reuse infrastructure. Currently, the project team is working closely with Build Reuse and Brad to figure out the best way to deliver the Toolkit publicly.

Finally, the ReBuildATL Team also designed, developed, and deployed a comprehensive value statement to help guide the collaborative in how it should be governed and work collectively.

The current community partners within the RebuildATL Network include:

- 2M Design Consultants / Belinda Morrow: 2m-inc.net/
- Atlanta Housing Authority: atlantahousing.org/
- Atlanta Technical College: atlantatech.edu/
- Build Reuse: buildreuse.org
- Center for Sustainable Communities: csc-atl.org/
- City of Atlanta Office of Resilience: 100atl.com/office-of-resilience
- Edge Collaborative: edgecollaborative.org/
- Epsten Group: epstengroup.com/
- Georgia Interfaith Power & Light: gipl.org/
- Georgia Tech Serve-Learn Sustain: serve-learn-sustain.gatech.edu/
- Georgia Trade-Up / Stand-Up: georgiastandup.org/
- Greening Youth Foundation: gyfoundation.org/
- Greenlink Analytics: www.greenlinkanalytics.org/
- GreenShortz: greenshortz.com/
- Groundwork Atlanta: groundworkusa.org/focus-areas/
- Grove Park Foundation: groveparkfoundation.org/
- Keep Georgia Beautiful Foundation: kgbf.org/
- Mary Parker Foundation: maryparkerfoundation.org/
- Mother's Tongue Consulting: earth-centereddesign.com/
- Museum of Design Atlanta: www.museumofdesign.org/
- Partnership for Southern Equity: psequity.org/
- Rebuilding Together Atlanta: rebuildingtogether-atlanta.org/
- Re:Purpose Savannah: repurposesavannah.org/
- Restore Life: www.restorelife.net/
- Southface Institute: southface.org/
- U.S. Green Building Council – Georgia Chapter: usgbc.org/chapters/usgbc-georgia
- West Atlanta Watershed Alliance (WAWA): wawa-online.org/

The current employer partners within the Breaking Barriers Program include:

- Alair Homes: www.alairhomes.com/
- Alternative Energy Southeast: altenergyse.com/
- DPR Construction: www.dpr.com/
- Evergreen Construction: evergreencorp.com/
- GT Ray C Anderson for Sustainable Business Drawdown Georgia Business Compact: scheller.gatech.edu/centers-and-initiatives/ray-c-anderson-center-for-sustainable-business/drawdown/index.html
- Georgia State University Facilities Management: <https://facilities.gsu.edu/>
- Georgia Tech Facilities Management: facilities.gatech.edu/
- Holder Construction: www.holderconstruction.com/
- JE Dunn Construction: jedunn.com/
- Juneau Construction Company: juneaucc.com/
- MHR Atlanta: masterhomeremodelers.com/
- National Association of the Remodeling Industry - Atlanta Chapter: nariatlanta.org/

- Historic Oakland Foundation: oaklandcemetery.com/
- Skanska: skanska.com/
- Spelman College Facilities Management: www.spelman.edu/
- Weidmann & Associates: www.weidmannremodeling.com/
- Wellstar: wellstar.org

2. What problems (or sources of error), if any, were encountered?

LBC's limited staff capacity has continued to impact the project's progress and has made it difficult to keep the project on schedule. While LBC has been able to fill two of its four vacant positions by hiring a Sales & Personnel Manager and a Donations & Field Operations Manager, two positions remain unfilled, the Reuse Innovation & Training Coordinator, and the Deconstruction & Donation Associate.

3. If a problem was encountered, what action was taken to correct it?

LBC is currently interviewing candidates and working to bring new staff members into the organization as quickly as possible.

4. What work is projected for the new quarter activity?

The following tasks have been identified for the upcoming quarter:

1. Community Reuse Toolkit
 - Work with Build Reuse to develop graphic portions of the Reuse Toolkit and finalize the delivery format
2. Deconstruction Training
 - Finalize deconstruction training curriculum and other relevant credentials/training
 - Finalize deconstruction training cohort recruitment and evaluation process
 - Work with employer partners to determine commitments on the number of trainees they will hire and establish all employer criteria which must be met by the trainees
 - Complete training system design
 - Initiate and complete training cohort recruitment
 - Develop agreements with employers that can provide on-the-job training salaries and are willing to hire trainees upon graduation
 - Hold information session(s) for prospective trainees to introduce the program
 - Work with community partners to identify deconstruction training sites
 - Purchase training gear (boots, gloves, safety glasses, tool kit, etc.)
 - Initiate deconstruction training & other relevant credentials/training (OSHA, GPRO, RRP etc.)
 - Deliver soft skills training to trainees with help from community partners (resume development, mock interviewing, etc.)
 - Document & share information about training via photos, video content, trainee/partner interviews, media articles, press coverage

5. Is the project work on schedule?

Yes. With the extended deadline, LBC is planning to start the four-week training in late March and will continue to evaluate the trainees after the program is complete.

(a) This quarter?

Yes.

(b) For the project?

Yes.

6. Does the project funding rate support the work progress?

Yes.

7. What has been spent to date?

A total of \$

\$36,846.00

8. Has a quarterly voucher been submitted for reimbursement? A copy should be attached to the quarterly report.

Yes.

9. Is there a change in principal investigator?

No.

10. If this is a multi-year project with multiple budget periods, has a request been submitted for a funding amendment?

N/A